

## Ibn Omar seeks break with Libya

PARIS (R) — Chadian opposition leader Sheikh Ibn Omar, whose 2,000 troops left Libya for Sudan last week, is seeking a reconciliation with the Chadian government, a source close to Ibn Omar said in Paris Wednesday. He said Ibn Omar's decision to send his men to northern Sudan was the first step by the rebel leader towards a possible reconciliation with the N'djamena government of Hissene Habre. By surreptitiously moving his troops out of Libya, Ibn Omar wanted to demonstrate the independence of his Revolutionary Democratic Council (CDR), long accused by Chad of being a puppet of Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Qaddafi. Qaddafi had wanted to put the troops under the leadership of his protégé, ex-Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei, who was ousted by Habre's French-backed forces, the source added. He said Ibn Omar's hands were still tied because Libya had the last word on whether 10,000 pro-CDR Chadian refugees regrouped in a camp at Sirte, on Libya's Mediterranean coast, would be allowed to leave the country. Ibn Omar would soon be embarking on an overseas tour to explain his movement's position to interested parties abroad, the source added.

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
جوردان تايمز مؤسسة صحفية سياسية مستقلة بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية. الراي.

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Volume 13 Number 3846

AMMAN THURSDAY-FRIDAY AUGUST 4-5, 1988, DHUL HILJA 21-22, 1408

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

## AROUND THE WORLD...

### Gromyko meets Carlucci in Crimea

MASSANDRA (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci had a meeting with Soviet President Andrei Gromyko at this Crimean sea-side resort Wednesday. Carlucci is on a visit to the Soviet Union to tour military bases as part of a programme of military exchanges between the superpowers aimed at establishing closer understanding. He was due to travel to the port city of Sevastopol, headquarters of the Soviet Black Sea fleet and long closed to foreigners.

### Italy okays funds for Gulf fleet

ROME (AP) — The senate Tuesday approved a decree providing financing for Italy's naval task force in the Gulf through the end of 1988. The Chamber of Deputies approved the measure July 17. The decree provides 84 billion lira (\$63 million) for the fleet.

### Pakistani kills 4 in wedding tragedy

ISLAMABAD (R) — A wedding in Quetta ended in tragedy when a guest lost control of the rifle he was firing into the air and killed four men, the Associated Press of Pakistan reported. It said the man was celebrating a relative's marriage in the western Pakistani city Tuesday with a fusillade from his Kalashnikov automatic rifle when the accident happened.

### Turkey says Iraq bombed its border area

ANKARA (R) — Iraqi planes bombed Turkey's southeastern province of Hakkari and a strong protest was being prepared for Baghdad, the Turkish Foreign Ministry said Wednesday. Ministry spokesman Inal Batu told reporters two Iraqi fighters dropped at least 13 bombs Friday near the Turkish village of Ugoze, about 15 kilometres from the Iran-Iraq border, without causing casualties or damage.

### Ship explodes, sinks in Gulf of Oman

DUBAI (R) — With a cargo of gas-bottles bound for Karachi exploded and sank in the Gulf of Oman Wednesday injuring three crewmen, shipping sources said. A French warship rescued the Greek captain and the eight Pakistani, Singaporean and one Australian sailors, they added. They said the blast on the 700-tonne Fatima, owned by a Dubai company, was caused by an accident on board. They had no further details.

### Vietnam suspends cooperation with U.S.

BANGKOK (R) — Vietnam Wednesday said it was suspending cooperation with the United States on humanitarian issues because of hostility from Washington. Hanoi Radio said it had temporarily suspended planned joint searches by Americans and Vietnamese for U.S. servicemen listed as missing in action from the Indochina war and the emigration to the United States of former detainees of Vietnamese reeducation camps. Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach in a letter dated July 31 to U.S. presidential envoy John Vessey cited as a reason State Department objections to the establishment of low-level diplomatic relations between Hanoi and Washington.

### Iranian minister arrives in Moscow

NICOSIA (R) — Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Larjani arrived in Moscow Wednesday for talks on mutual and regional issues, Tehran Radio reported. The radio said Larjani was invited by a Soviet deputy foreign minister. It gave no other details. Iran's First Deputy Foreign Minister Ali Mohammad Besharati said last week that Moscow had proposed Iran and Iraq hold direct talks in the Soviet Union on ending their war.

### Ibn Ali due in Libya

TUNIS (R) — President Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali is due to visit Tripoli for talks with Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi at the end of the week after postponing a trip there in June, diplomatic sources said. Final arrangements for the planned three-day trip are still to be made and it will start either Friday or Saturday.

### Pakistan: No hand in alleged Sikh plot

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan Wednesday denied any involvement in an alleged Sikh extremist plot to kill Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and Home Minister Bura Singh. The allegations, reported in the authoritative Times of India Tuesday, caused an uproar in the Indian parliament with members demanding retaliation against Pakistan. The newspaper said the plot was revealed in documents captured by Indian security forces. A Pakistan Foreign Ministry spokesman said the report was baseless and added that Islamabad "strictly adheres to a steadfast policy of non-interference in the internal affairs of other states."

### Anglicans call for Namibia independence

CANTERBURY (R) — The Anglican church's 525 bishops unanimously called on South Africa Wednesday to withdraw from Namibia and Angola. The emergency resolution was passed at the bishops' Lambeth conference in Canterbury, southern England. The resolution said "deeply aware of the protracted suffering of the Namibian people at the hands of the South African regime," the South African government should withdraw from Angola and Namibia.

### Hizbollah denies taking ransom

BEIRUT (R) — The Pro-Iranian Hizbollah group denied Wednesday a statement by Syrian Defence Minister Mustafa Tlas that it received 18 million marks (\$10 million) ransom for West German hostage Alfred Schmidt. "What was attributed to Brigadier Mustafa Tlas about Hizbollah's involvement in freeing the German hostage Schmidt in return for ransom money is totally and categorically untrue," it said in a statement to news agencies. "We stress and confirm for the thousandth time that we are totally unrelated with the issue of hostages. We are not middlemen nor slave traders," the statement added.

### Hizbollah says it 'executed' kidnapper

BEIRUT (R) — The pro-Iranian Hizbollah said Wednesday it had "executed" the kidnapper of three Lebanese children. It said in a statement to news agencies: "Following measures by Hizbollah against members of the gang arrested for involvement in the kidnapping of the three Al Ariss children... Hizbollah carried out a just sentence... and executed Yousef Jawhar after he confessed involvement in several armed kidnappings, terrorising civilians and extorting money." The children of wealthy foreign exchange dealer Zuhair Al Ariss were grabbed by six gunmen while on their way to school on June 14 but rescued three days later in an operation by Hizbollah and Syrian troops.

### Rust flies home after early release

MOSCOW (R) — West German pilot Mathias Rust, sentenced to four years jail last year for flying a light plane illegally to Moscow, was freed Wednesday and put on a plane out of the Soviet Union, TASS news agency said (see page 8).

## Israeli army destroys, seals 12 Arab homes

**OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — The Israeli army destroyed or sealed 12 homes in the occupied West Bank Wednesday after a day of clashes between demonstrators and troops in which a Palestinian was shot dead.**

An army spokesman said the homes belonged to members of two groups arrested recently that carried out petrol bomb attacks in the Hebron and Ramallah areas. He charged that the group from Beit Ummar, near Hebron, were responsible for an attack in June that wounded two officers and for attacks on Israeli vehicles.

Soldiers detonated 10 homes before dawn in Beit Ummar, Jemala and Deir Ummar villages and Jalazoun refugee camp, in the West Bank, and sealed two homes in Beit Ummar and Jemala.

In Nabulus, the West Bank's largest city, troops shot dead a Palestinian boy as he was about to throw a building block from a rooftop onto soldiers below, the army said.

Palestinians said seven boys were wounded in a resulting clash with troops using rubber bullets and live ammunition. The army said two had been injured.

Two others were injured in clashes in Dura village as Palestinians throughout the territories struck for a second day to protest against Israel's expulsion policy. At least 247 Palestinians have died in the nearly eight-month Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and occupied Gaza Strip. Eight Palestinians were expelled Monday.

The army imposed 24-hour curfews on Kabarya and Hussan villages and Dheisheh refugee camps, and maintained nightly

curfews on Azoun and Qalqilya villages in the West Bank.

In the Gaza Strip, strikers barricaded streets and hurled stones at Israeli vehicles.

In Dura, Israeli soldiers laid a trap for boys who blocked a bus taking workers into Israel Tuesday, according to residents who witnessed the incident.

They said troops leapt out of a bus stoned by three boys at dawn and shot them as they fled into nearby fields.

One local man said the troops were in civilian clothes, and a spokesman for the Natshe and Da's bus company said they commandeered the bus for the operation.

Army and hospital sources said Jamal Rabbat, 17, and Munjid Kazaz, 18, were both wounded. They had no news of a third boy named by townspeople as 16-year-old Tahrir Souss.

It began as a typical incident in the uprising. Protesters were trying to prevent workers from breaking one of the frequent strikes called by leaders of the revolt.

## Media welcome Jordan's move, urge PLO action

Combined news agency dispatches

AMMAN — Most newspapers in the Arab World and outside have described Jordan's decision to sever formal ties with the occupied West Bank as a historic move in compliance with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) wishes and Arab consensus and said the move had made it incumbent upon the PLO to take positive action towards fulfilling the aspirations of the Arabs living in the occupied territories.

Cairo's Al-Ahram said in an editorial that the way was now paved for Palestinian, Arab and international efforts to establish

## PLO affirms commitment to PNC, Arab, U.N. resolutions

BAGHDAD (Petra) — The Palestine Central Council (PCC) ended three days of meetings here Wednesday during which it discussed the ongoing Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and Jordan's decision to sever legal and administrative ties with the West Bank.

A statement issued at the end of the meeting said the council "discussed in full the Jordanian decision, which was taken without the knowledge or consultation with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO)."

"During its discussions, the council reaffirmed the PLO's adherence and commitment to resolutions adopted by the Palestine National Council (PNC), Arab summits and the United Nations," the statement said.

(Continued on page 4)

## Rangoon declares martial law

BANGKOK (R) — Burmese authorities declared martial law in Rangoon Wednesday as they faced the biggest political crisis in 26 years of socialist rule.

Rangoon Radio said a state of emergency and martial law were imposed indefinitely from 7 p.m. (12.30 GMT) after seven days of scattered anti-government demonstrations culminating in a march by hundreds of people through the capital Wednesday.

The order was signed by Sein Lwin, who took over as chairman of the ruling Burma Socialist Programme Party (BSPP) last Tuesday from veteran leader Ne Win. He also became president.

Diplomats said student leaflets had called for a national strike next Monday and speculated that the crackdown may be a pre-emptive move.

Burma has been racked by blood clashes between police and youths since March amid growing public anger over falling living standards and repression of

peaceful opposition.

The radio, monitored in Bangkok, said about 200 students, "joining force with some people intent on causing riotous disturbances" Wednesday at Shwedagon Pagoda, a traditional site and symbol of resistance.

They started a "protest march and disturbances and the situation arose which regional power organs could no longer control," the broadcast said.

It added: "In order to ensure the security of the state, safeguard the lives and properties of people and fulfil the wish of students who desire to study peacefully the state council exercises its right vested under article 76 of the constitution and declares a state of emergency and imposes martial law."

It said students had been gathering at the pagoda since July 26 "delivering speeches, pasting up propaganda posters, distributing opposition pamphlets and staging protest marches..."

Their aim had been to "disturb students who wish to study peacefully and the working people who prefer peace in Rangoon," the radio statement said.

Administrative and judicial power in the capital was invested in Rangoon military commander Brigadier-General Myit Myint.

Rangoon residents who witnessed Wednesday's demonstrations said merchants closed and shuttered their shops during student rallies but resumed business after students dispersed.

Sein Lwin directed suppression of opposition to Ne Win's 26-years in power.

Last Friday, authorities detained former Brigadier-General Aung Gyi, the most outspoken critic of the government and at least 10 other suspected dissidents.

Rangoon was briefly put under dusk-to-dawn curfew and public gatherings were banned in the aftermath of protests in March and June.

## Greece to close major American air base

ATHENS (R) — Greece has decided to close the major U.S. Hellenikon air base outside Athens, government spokesman Sotiris Kostopoulos said Wednesday.

"One of the decisions of the Greek government is... the abolition of the Hellenikon base," he told reporters.

Kostopoulos gave no indication of when the Hellenikon base will be shut, but he said there was no question of transferring operations at the base to another site in Greece.

Talks between Greece and the United States on a new agreement for U.S. military bases have been deadlocked since they began last November.

Greece has notified Washington that the present agreement will be terminated in December and the Americans will then have

17 months to pack up and go home unless a new accord is signed.

Washington maintains four major air force and naval bases and some 20 smaller facilities in Greece. About 3,700 American military personnel are stationed at the installations.

Hellenikon is next to Athens international airport and uses the same runway as commercial flights into Greece. Its position is a constant reminder of the U.S. military presence in the country.

The U.S. air force uses the base for re-supply and transport operations throughout the Middle East as well as surveillance operations there by RC-135 reconnaissance planes.

"The negotiations, as we have repeatedly underlined, are forced to be tough and long," Kostopoulos said.

The outcome of the talks would "depend on the manner in which the United States handles certain issues of our direct interest," he added.

The Greek government has repeatedly said a new agreement must serve the country's highest national interest. Greece wants guarantees that Washington backs its position in disputes over the Aegean Sea region and Cyprus.

Greece and neighbouring Turkey, which also receives military backing from Washington, are locked in a series of disputes over the region. Turkey has some 20,000 troops on the divided island of Cyprus.

Socialist Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu was swept into office in 1981, riding a tide of strong anti-American sentiment



His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday confers with Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan, who delivered to him a message from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, in a meeting at Al Nadwa Palace attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai (Petra photo)

## King receives Iraqi message on developments in peace efforts

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday received a message from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on the latest developments in efforts for peace in the Gulf and the situation at the Iran-Iraq battlefield. The message was conveyed to the King at Al Nadwa Palace by Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan, who also briefed the King on Iraq's views with regard to implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 and Iraq's insistence that

the ceasefire document be implemented in the order of its provisions for comprehensive peace and an end to the war.

Iraq is calling for direct talks with Iran before a ceasefire can be announced so that the situation can not be transformed into a mere truce that does not achieve the aspired comprehensive peace.

The audience was in the presence of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Chief Chamberlain

Princ Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and other officials.

Ramadan, who later left Amman, is on a tour that included Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, and North Yemen.

In a statement at the airport Ramadan said any move by the U.N. secretary general to order a ceasefire before direct Iran-Iraq negotiations was bound to harm the peace process.

## Iraqis stage air raids; U.N. awaits Gulf report

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq said its jets attacked two targets in Iran Wednesday in the latest Iraqi military action since Tehran accepted a ceasefire last month.

"Our warplanes achieved two heroic operations to destroy the economic mainstays which support the Iranian enemy war effort," a military spokesman said.

Iran reported earlier that Iraqi jets raided "industrial-labour units" in the provinces of Bushehr and Khuzestan.

The Iraqi spokesman said the jets staged successful and destructive raids against a pumping station and the Kangan gas plant under construction on the mainland near Lavan Island in the southern Gulf.

Iraqi jets previously raided Kangan on June 30, killing 12 South Korean workers and wounding 48. The South Korean company building the plant suspended work and pulled out the rest of its workers after that raid.

The Iraqi spokesman denied an Iranian report that an Iraqi jet had been shot down during the raids Wednesday.

Iraq staged the raids while its foreign minister, Tariq Aziz, was in New York for talks with U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar on a ceasefire resolution.

The U.N. chief is holding separate talks with Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, whose country accepted the Security Council resolution July 18.

The talks are stalled by a dispute over direct talks, which Iraq says must precede a cease-

fire. Iran says the ceasefire must come first.

An Arab League committee set up to monitor the war ended a meeting in Baghdad Wednesday with a declaration of support for Iraq's insistence on face-to-face talks.

"The committee calls on the international community and the U.N. Security Council member states... to boost efforts to guarantee a just, comprehensive and durable settlement for the conflict, through direct negotiations," said the committee.

Other members include Iraq, Kuwait, Morocco, North Yemen, Saudi Arabia and Tunisia. Tehran Radio dismissed the committee's support.

"Its position in no way reflects that of all member countries of the Arab League," the radio commented.

Iranian President Ali Khamenei told a rally Tuesday that Iran doubted U.N. negotiations could achieve peace and

said if Iraq insisted on direct talks, Iran would set conditions of its own.

But Perez de Cuellar commented: "I have to be very careful about these public statements... sometimes they don't reflect exactly the thinking of the leaders who address the press."

The fresh war action flared as Perez de Cuellar awaited the report of a team of experts which has studied ceasefire logistics in Iran and Iraq.

Team leader Lieutenant-General Martin Vastad of Norway is due to submit his findings Thursday, after which the U.N. chief is expected to set a date for a ceasefire.

He has so far been unable to agree a date with Iran and Iraq because of the dispute over direct talks.

Iraq, apparently fearing Perez de Cuellar might set a truce date without waiting for its consent, said Tuesday this would be unacceptable.

## Reagan vetoes defence bill in move seen to help Bush

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan Wednesday vetoed a \$299.5 billion defence bill, saying it would weaken the United States militarily. But Democrats charged it was a political move to boost George Bush's election campaign.

"This bill would signal a basic change in the direction of our national defence, a change away from strength and proven success and back towards weakness and accommodation of the 1970s," Reagan told reporters in the White House press room.

The president also charged the bill would gut his cherished strategic defence initiative (SDI), known popularly as "Star Wars," and tie future presidents' hands in arms control negotiations with the Soviet Union.

"It would gravely endanger the SDI programme... (and) cripple the very concept of a space shield against nuclear attack," Reagan declared. "And I will not abide this."

Congress can reject a presidential veto if at least two-thirds of both the House of Representatives and the Senate vote to do so. While the original Senate vote on the defence bill was by a veto-proof margin, votes in the House of Representatives fell short.

At \$299.5 billion, the 1989 defence authorisation bill, which sets spending and policy priorities for the defence department, is the

full amount requested by the administration and conformed to a budget agreement reached late last year between Congress and the White House designed to cut deficits.

But the Democratic-led Congress rearranged spending priorities within the bill, in one case cutting Reagan's \$4.9 billion SDI request to \$4.1 billion.

Even before Reagan announced his veto, leading Democrats, including the chairman of the house and Senate armed services committees, charged it was motivated by election-year politics.

They said Vice-President George Bush, who will be the Republican candidate facing Democrat Michael Dukakis in the November presidential election, would be the main beneficiary.

"The only conclusion I can come to is that some people believe there is some political advantage to be gained from vetoing the defence authorisation bill," Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Sam Nunn of Georgia said Tuesday when news of a likely veto began to circulate on Capitol Hill.

Wisconsin Representative Les Aspin, Nunn's counterpart in the House, agreed, charging Republicans want to "use the defence bill to argue that Democrats are weak on defence."







## Centre to distribute transcripts of Tawjihi grades

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Ministry of Education announced Wednesday that it will open a centre to receive the requests of students from the occupied West Bank wishing to obtain transcripts of their Tawjihi (General Secondary School Certificate Examinations) grades.

The announcement said applications can be made at the centre, which will be based at Al Hussein College in Amman, as of Saturday. The transcripts can be obtained for JD 1.

The ministry, in another announcement, said a number of committees have been appointed to endorse transcripts and certificates.

It said that as of Saturday the following centres will be opened for this procedure: Ibn Zahr and Ma'moun schools in Jabal Amman, the Girls Commercial School in Zarqa, Um Anara School in Irbid, Aqaba Ibn Nafce School in Salt, Ma'an Government School in Ma'an and Al Hashimieh School in Karak.

Students who passed their Tawjihi examinations must endorse their certificates and other required documents at these centres before presenting them to departments, universities, or community colleges.

Those wishing to study abroad must have these certificates and transcripts endorsed by the Foreign Ministry and the embassy of the country in which they wish to study.

Coinciding with the new ministry arrangements, post offices in the Kingdom began to accept applications from students wishing to enrol at Jordanian universities. Press reports estimate that community colleges and the four local universities will admit a total of 21,000 students out of a total of 36,937 who passed this year's Tawjihi examinations in both banks of Jordan.

Sixty per cent of the 64,892 students who took the Tawjihi examinations in June were successful.



Minister of Planning Taher Kanaan and U.N. Ali Atiqah Wednesday sign two agreements on Development Programme Representative in Jordan (Petra photo)

## Jordan, UNDP sign 2 agreements

AMMAN (Petra) — The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) signed two agreements with the Jordanian government under which it will offer the country a total of \$1.049 million in technical assistance to help it diversify and develop its exports and develop Jordan's employment and manpower programmes.

The agreement aims to develop the Jordanian commercial centres in different countries enabling it to offer better consultancy services to Jordanian exporters.

The agreement also provides for helping Jordan lay a permanent strategy to develop its industrial and agricultural exports by paving the way for investments in the private and public sectors.

It is hoped that the project will improve the quality of goods and the process of marketing them in Arab countries, Asia and Western Europe.

The UNDP will provide \$650,000 to cover the cost of hiring experts in this field and establishing training programmes for Jordanians. The government will provide offices, local officials and transport facilities.

The second agreement, on developing human resources, aims to boost Jordan's economy by creating jobs.

Under this project, the UNDP will provide experts and technicians to help the country create a balance in the labour market and lay down an integrated data system to monitor and control the local labour market.

The UNDP will contribute a total of \$339,000 to cover the overall expenses of the local and international specialists. The government will provide \$200,000 in the form of facilities, while the International Labour Organisation (ILO) will supervise the project's implementation.

The two agreements were signed by Minister of Planning Taher Kanaan and UNDP representative in Jordan Ali Atiqah.

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## Libyan team discusses possibility of setting up NMI-like institution

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Libya hopes to benefit from Jordan's experience in medical affairs by setting up a medical council along the line of the National Medical Institution (NMI) in Jordan.

The two members are Dr. Omar Hassan, director of medical services, and Mr. Taher Abdul Hamid Al Munasser, director of financial and administrative affairs in Libya.

The two officials, who were speaking at a press conference here, said that Libya plans to bring in Arab experts and technicians in medical services to replace all foreigners working in that field, and for this reason it has already concluded contracts with 70 Jordanian doctors to work in Libyan hospitals.

Those selected to work in gynaecology, paediatrics, internal medicine, X-ray, anaesthetics as well as surgery, according to the Libyan officials.

They said an agreement has just been reached with Jordan to dispatch another 80 specialists and general practitioners to Libyan hospitals and Tripoli.

The NMI, which was established earlier this year, became operational as of the beginning of last month.

The NMI takes charge of all hospitals run by the Ministry of Health, the armed forces and the Jordan University Hospital, functioning under the chairmanship of Dr. Daoud Hanania, who is also director general of the Royal Medical Services.

Hanania said the NMI will operate closely with the Health Ministry in all matters concerning health affairs and training of medical staff and nurses.

The NMI, he said, will focus its attention on improving health services in all parts of the Kingdom.

tribute to the facilities offered to them by the health authorities in Jordan. They also expressed thanks for cooperation from the Higher Medical Council and the Jordanian Medical Association, which they said are instrumental in promoting ties between the two countries.

The Health Ministry said earlier that it was trying to find work for unemployed Jordanian doctors in Libya and North Yemen.

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## Jordan seeks cancellation of ABTA meeting in Jerusalem

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan is exerting all possible efforts to influence an Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA) decision to hold their annual meeting in Jerusalem this November and invited ABTA to hold their meeting in any Arab city they choose.

Minister of Tourism Zubair Ajlouni announced Wednesday that the ministry "is exerting concentrated efforts to end ongoing contacts to hold the ABTA meeting," and described the decision by ABTA as "dangerous."

In an interview with the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Ajlouni said if this meeting is held in Jerusalem it would "help the Israeli expansionist policies and harm Arab and Islamic countries. He warned that Jordan "will work quickly on showing the political repercussion of accepting Jerusalem (as part of Israel) through this touristic opportunity."

The Jordan Times reported in July the controversy which arose as a result of the logo adopted by ABTA for their annual convention. The logo carries the initials of ABTA 1988 with Jerusalem written across a drawing of the Jewish menorah with Israel written under it.

At the time, Munir Nassar of the International Traders Agency in Jordan said that "for the first time ever Jerusalem is treated as part of Israel, if the name of the city was Tel Aviv there would have been no controversy."

Nassar added that if the logo did not carry the name of the country (Israel) there would have been little ground for debate.

Ajlouni told Petra that he has personally followed the efforts by the Arab Ambassadors Committee and the Arab-British Trade Chamber in England to convince ABTA members and persuade them not to participate in the proposed meeting.

Ajlouni said: "Contacts are being made with British travel agencies which work with Jordan, to stop them from selling private trips which are usually organised for this meeting annually."

The minister of tourism said choosing Jerusalem for this convention "comes as a prize gift for the Israeli occupation for refusing to accept all international resolutions concerning the city of Jerusalem."

He added that Israel has manipulated the name of Jerusalem "horribly" in its campaign for this convention. Ajlouni denied Israeli allegations that Jordanian travel agencies are preparing touristic trips to fit in with this convention, he described these allegations as "obviously done with mean intentions aimed at hurting Jordan and its touristic reputation."

According to the earlier Jordan Times article Nassar said that some travel agents in Jordan have been approached by ABTA members to make plans to use Jordan as a stop over to Jerusalem.

organising the meeting to the Arab Boycott Office in Damascus, which maintains the list of companies banned from the Arab World because of their ties with Israel.

The Jordanian government has issued a statement through its London embassy describing the convention as "provocative and totally unacceptable" and warning that Jordan "will not cooperate in offering any facilities whatsoever for any tour associated with the convention."

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## PLO, Arab states assail ABTA meeting

DESPITE INTENSE opposition from the PLO and Arab countries, the Association of British Travel Agents (Abta) is pressing ahead with plans to hold its annual convention in occupied Jerusalem in October.

The convention, expected to be attended by some 3,000 delegates, will be staged in a conference centre in the western part of the city.

The Arab states and the PLO have been angered by Abta's plans, which they see as an affront at a time when Israel is brutally suppressing the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories. In addition, they view the convention as being supportive of Israel's illegal annexation of East Jerusalem, seized by the Israelis in 1967.

The Arab-British Chamber of Commerce has written to Abta members warning that attendance at the convention could affect their business with Arab countries, and the PLO office in London has referred the names of the companies most closely involved in organising the meeting to the Arab Boycott Office in Damascus, which maintains the list of companies banned from the Arab World because of their ties with Israel.

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the Israeli occupation for refusing to accept all international resolutions concerning the city of Jerusalem."

He added that Israel has manipulated the name of Jerusalem "horribly" in its campaign for this convention. Ajlouni denied Israeli allegations that Jordanian travel agencies are preparing touristic trips to fit in with this convention, he described these allegations as "obviously done with mean intentions aimed at hurting Jordan and its touristic reputation."

According to the earlier Jordan Times article Nassar said that some travel agents in Jordan have been approached by ABTA members to make plans to use Jordan as a stop over to Jerusalem.

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Established in 1975

الصحف الأردنية المستقلة المنشورة بالإنجليزية من مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية

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Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

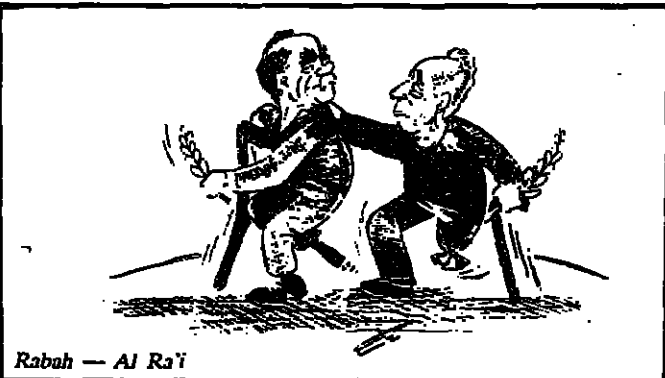
Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.  
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the  
Jordan Times advertising department.

## Moving away from peace

ISRAEL'S detention of Palestinian activist Faisal Hussein not only reinforces the accepted fact that it is moving further and further away from the concept of just and fair peace but also consolidates the Zionist state's drive to eliminate all voices of moderation and reason from the Palestinian scene. "Peace, harmony and coexistence" have become anathema to Israel, which continues to speak and act as if pure military might is the answer to its "security" problems. Not that it is anything new. Memories are fresh of the treatment that the Israelis gave to those who advocated a just and fair solution. Countless are the instances of swift Israeli moves to stifle voices of reason and justice, including Palestinian peace activist Mubarak Awad and even peace-advocating Israelis who broke taboos when they met with like-minded Palestinians; not to mention another voice of love, peace and harmony some 2,000 years ago. The only difference is that while one was crucified the others were jailed or expelled from the land. Crucifixion also are the times when the Israelis were reminded, by the international community as well as the Arabs, that it is a self-defeating course to drown out Palestinian voices of moderation since it is people like Hussein and Mubarak that Israel would have to talk to if it wants peace and security. It is strange that Israel has not come to terms with the fact that there are thousands in the occupied territories who will replace people like Hussein and Mubarak in their struggle for liberation but not necessarily share their belief in peace and coexistence. How long can the occupation army continue its detention policy without inviting armed retaliation by the Palestinians? Perhaps armed retaliation indeed is what the Israeli army wants from the Palestinians to justify a course of mass eviction of Palestinians from their homeland.

### ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS



### Al Ra'i: Strong cohesion, close cooperation

THE national unity in Jordan enabled the Kingdom to attain numerous achievements and to overcome numerous obstacles and difficulties. This unity most importantly enabled Jordan and the Jordanian people to abort all Zionist designs and evil plans. The citizens of this country have been keen on safeguarding this unity and transformed it from a political slogan into practice represented by strong cohesion and close cooperation to serve Arab causes. For Jordan national unity is a sacred matter and is something with which we allow no one to tamper. Unity is regarded as an essential factor if we want to remain steadfast in the face of Zionist conspiracies and if we want to advocate the cause of pan-Arab unity for which Arab masses aspire. Jordan realises the Zionist enemy's continued attempts to destroy Arab unity in a bid to weaken our defence and our solidarity. Jordan has always stood firm in the face of many storms and every time the Kingdom came out far more stronger than before, making us more capable of dealing with Israel's plots. Jordan is now faced with the Zionist claims that Jordan stands as an obstacle in the path of peace but this country will in fact remain an obstacle in the face of aggression and invasion.

### Al Dustour: Favourable reactions

THE overwhelming favourable reactions to the King's address to the nation in which he announced that Jordan's legal and administrative ties will be severed, reflect the important status of this country in the regional and international arenas. The reactions also point clearly to the significant role which the Kingdom can and will play in the on-going Arab-Israeli conflict, and the various other developments in the Middle East region. Jordan's political stand has been clear to all, over the past years; and this is something which won the Kingdom a great deal of credibility and respect by Arab and foreign countries alike. But, most importantly, different countries have come to realise the national role which Jordan has been playing at the Arab level particularly in supporting the Palestinian people in their struggle to regain their homeland and freedom. Jordan has been playing a leading role at all Arab, regional and international meetings, serving as a staunch supporter for the Arab causes, particularly the Palestinian cause. For this reason, pan-Arab reactions have been favourable, lauding Jordan's efforts and sacrifices.

### Sawt Al Shaab: Removing all scepticism

JORDAN has no doubt decided on severing legal and administrative ties with the West Bank with deep pain, but it had to take such action in true commitment to safeguarding Arab interests and with a view to help the Palestinians in their struggle against Zionism. This fact was reaffirmed by Information Minister Hani Khasawneh in his interview with the Kuwaiti daily Al Qabas. But, in his statement, the minister made it clear that Jordan will continue to extend help to the Palestinians in the West Bank in coordination with the PLO and in an atmosphere marked with amity, affection and cooperation. Jordan, he said, wanted the whole world to realise that the Kingdom was not intent on rivaling the PLO in its drive to represent the Palestinians and serve their interests, and to remove all scepticism vis-a-vis its relations with the West Bank. Jordan is committed to all Arab causes; and the occupation of Palestinian land had prompted Jordan to double its efforts in the past years to offer additional services to the oppressed people under occupation.

# The 'last of wars' and the 'last of uprisings' fallacy

By Dr. Asad Abdul Rahman

THE SPREAD of the Palestinian popular uprising during the last weeks of 1987 and through 1988 is no sheer coincidence. The current uprising has its own special traits that differentiate it from previous uprisings, though it is not the first in the history of the Palestinian people and will definitely not be the last. Some Israeli officials constantly try to emphasise that this is the last of the Palestinian uprisings and that such phenomenon will never be repeated. Such emphasis and excessive confidence is definitely baseless as Israel is bound to face bleak times until the seal of its own fate. This conclusion is not romantic thinking or excessive optimism but rather a logical and natural reflection of a tangible political fait accompli based on solid objective political conditions. What then are the elements which lead us to such optimistic introduction?

The first fact in these objective political conditions is the increasing strength of the Israeli ultra right in the government, legislature and political parties. From 1967 onward, and especially after 1973, political observers could easily notice the growing power of the ultra right at the expense of the "Zionist right" — the Zionist religious middle parties and then, slowly but steadily, the parties and small splinter groups that fall to the right of the Israeli "left" labour movement represented in the Israeli Labour Party. The unified attitude and stance of these parties towards the uprising is a clear manifestation of this power. Almost 75 per cent of all Israeli youth between the ages of 18-22 reject the idea of relinquishing any part of the territories occupied in 1967. How could we then expect Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories at a time when the Arab "impotence" is at its greatest and this condition remains as it is, we should expect more Israeli intransigence and a gradual annexation of the occupied territories by means of confiscation and settlement together with a political stance rejecting any just settlement with the Arabs and a total rejection of Palestinian self-determination. In other words, Israel has no choice but to fall in harmony with its own special nature. Hence, a continuation of Israeli racist, expansionist and aggressive policies against the Palestinians inside and outside the occupied territories is likely to continue. To put it in brief succinct terms, we should not, under the current prevailing circumstances, and in the foreseeable future, expect any Israeli withdrawal from the

occupied territories. On the contrary, an increase in Israel's repressive measures and a prolonged occupation of all of Palestine and other parts of the Arab World is more likely.

The second element in the current political context is represented by the antithesis of the first. By this, we mean the Palestinian Arabs living under occupation for more than twenty years now. By the year 2010, demographers say, the Palestinians will achieve what is called "population parity" with the Jews living in Palestine thus forcing a de facto bi-national state. Aside from sheer numbers, 50 per cent of all those living in the occupied territories now are under 15 years of age. Most of the inhabitants of the occupied territories have one basic factor in common: They are very well ingrained with anti-occupation feelings of hatred. In addition, at least 50 per cent of them have been imprisoned, for varying intervals, thus gaining first hand experience indispensable for future confrontations with the occupiers. The connection between the various occupied territories is both geographical and political and the contradiction that exists between them and Zionist nationalism is steadily increasing and becoming more and more centralised with clear-cut traits caused by the increased deprivation and impoverishment of the inhabitants both inside and outside the boundaries that existed on June 4, 1967.

The two elements, elaborated above, are intermingled together with a third element that works as a catalyst between the two political contexts. By this we mean the synthesis of the above two elements, i.e., the mutual feeling of hatred, violence and confrontation that are bound to thrive when two ideologies and nationalities struggle for the same land. The massive Israeli waves of invasion into Palestine have not been successful in completely displacing the Palestinians neither in 1948 nor in 1967. Moreover, the aggressive racist and expansionist practices that were concomitant with the Zionist invasion has undoubtedly bred anti-Israeli feelings among the Palestinians. The imperialist and Zionist blow not only failed to kill the aspirations of the Palestinians but had, contrary to their expectations, enforced them. Such feelings of hatred are undoubtedly inherent between oppressors and the oppressed or between the occupiers and the occupied. The year 1987 has witnessed an increase in the number of Palestinian political forces that believe in armed struggle against the Zionist occupation especially after a substantial part of the Islamic

fundamental movement has joined the ranks of Palestinian armed resistance. This trend was made even clearer after the traditional local leadership, which is compromising in nature, lost ground — thanks to the intifadah — in favour of more radical elements. Not surprisingly, the statistics and figures of the renowned Israeli researcher Meron Benvenisti show an increase in the acts of violence (3,150 for the year ending April 1987). Other figures and statistics show an increase in the number of Palestinians killed, injured and arrested and a similar increase — though to a lesser degree — of casualties on the Israeli side. The case being as such, one should not be astonished to notice an increase in the hatred and violence among the Palestinian Arabs after such practices have become a complementary and integral part of their daily life.

In light of the above facts, how then could we believe that the present popular uprising will be the last? How could the contradiction of two deeply rooted and irreconcilable ideologies enhanced by conflicting nationalities, class struggle and religious antagonism be solved by sheer optimism and preaching? The Palestinian popular uprising — if nothing else — has reiterated and confirmed the already existing facts on the one hand, and dismissed the self-generated illusions that have accumulated on both sides about each other during the age of Arab impotence on the other. Examples of such illusions are the notions that Israeli occupation was there to stay, that the Palestinian accepted the so-called "benign occupation" and that the Arabs — including the Palestinian — have a docile nature and that the wild among them have already been tamed. Now, irrespective of the efforts exerted towards moderation by the various local, regional and international circles, the struggle is likely to intensify as long as the Zionist state continues its policy of settlement, aggressiveness and racism. The Palestinian Arabs have made it clear — in their current uprising — that the usurpation of Arab land will never be met with submissiveness. Hence, the uprising will persist and battles are likely to continue until the Israeli officials themselves discover the folly of their earlier belief that the current uprising is the last as they discovered in 1981 and 1982 that the October war of 1973 being the last. Wars will continue to be waged, battles will be fought and bloody confrontations are likely to persist until the fate of Israel — inflated by easy victories and phony conceptions — will be sealed.

## Beit Sahour sets the example...

By Peter Smerdon  
Reuters

BEIT SAHOUR — Israel has turned a new bureaucratic weapon against the Palestinian uprising in its occupied territories.

Israeli authorities are sweeping towns for cash from taxes, car licences and identity cards in an effort they say will show Palestinians the more they take up civil disobedience, the more Israel will try to force obedience. Leaders of the 1.5 million Palestinians counter that the harder Israel pushes, the more people will turn to civil disobedience. Tax collectors, escorted by troops, have visited towns and villages, demanding overdue payments or confiscating identity cards or property. Roadblocks have also been set up at which drivers are ordered to produce evidence of payment of taxes.

"You cannot imagine how angry the people are," mayor Elias Frej of the West Bank town of Bethlehem told Reuters. "I called for an end to this punishment but it just gets worse and worse."

Palestinians, eight months into an anti-Israeli uprising, have boycotted tax payments and — among residents like the 9,000 townspeople of Beit Sahour — have set up "popular committees" as a bureaucratic alternative to Israeli control.

Palestinians and even leftist Israelis view Beit Sahour as a model of popular revolt. "We salute rebellious Beit Sahour," said the latest set of resolutions for revolt issued by the United Leadership of the Uprising. "Follow Beit Sahour's example in confronting the taxmen."

### Threat to Israel

The authorities view Beit Sahour and communities like it as a threat to Israeli control over the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

A tax strike has cost authorities in the territories 40 per cent of their income the last fiscal year. Even so, West Bank analyst Meron Benvenisti said Israel would receive \$40-50 million a year more than it spent.

Benvenisti, director of the West Bank Data Project, an independent study group, added: "Israeli policy is now to harass the Palestinians in any way possible."

Troops raided Beit Sahour for taxes on July 7, and one in every 30 townspeople gave up Israeli identity cards in protest. Eight local leaders were arrested the following day, and they jailed without trial.

Residents demonstrated, the army clamped a curfew on the town for much of July and during this time a 17-year-old became the town's first martyr of the uprising. A stone block fell from a rooftop manned by Israeli soldiers and smashed his skull.

Townspeople accused soldiers of deliberately dropping the stone, but the army said the wall was crumbling, and the stone fell by accident. The teenager is one of more than 240 Palestinians killed during the uprising.

Israeli measures taken in recent weeks include: — Army roadblocks and raids to force Arabs to pay up or lose their identity cards or even cars.

A so-called road safety campaign forcing owners of the 25,000 cars in the Gaza Strip to change vehicle licences and pay a new car tax of about \$150-200.

— A changeover of Gaza Strip identity cards to raise \$6 million and, according to Israeli army Chief of Staff Dan Shomron, increase dependence on Israeli authorities.

— An end to free treatment for casualties from the uprising at West Bank government hospitals. There has also been a rise in the cost of other hospitalisations to the equivalent of a month's wages for most Palestinians — this to more evenly spread the cost of health care, an Israeli spokesman said.

— Arrests of suspected popular committee members and their detention without trial for up to six months. Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Israel blamed the committees for fomenting violence.

## ... leads civil disobedience

By Daoud Kuttub

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — If the intifadah aims to bring about civil disobedience in the occupied territories, there are two main requisites: Widespread popular support and the willingness of the Palestinians to cut their ties with the Israeli authorities. One area in which Palestinians have been called on to cut these ties is the non-payment of taxes to the Israeli authorities. Another is the call to Palestinians to hand back their identity cards — a key Israeli vehicle for controlling the Palestinian population.

The residents of the town of Beit Sahour south of Jerusalem have answered both calls. They refused to pay their taxes and then in protest at the punishment meted out to them, they gave up their ID cards.

On July 14 the Israelis went into the town and confiscated 60 vehicles, furniture and other belongings of residents who had not paid their taxes. The army had taken over a local school and converted it into an office for collecting and issuing tax documents and car licences, since the Palestinians working for the civil administration had quit their jobs. In response, 323 adult residents of the town went to the town hall and handed in their ID cards. Now all Palestinians are waiting to see how the Israelis react — and more importantly, how the people of Beit Sahour will get on without their ID cards

and whether other towns will follow their example. ID cards issued by the Israeli military authorities are like an umbilical cord connecting Palestinians to the occupation forces. All Palestinians over 16 have to carry the cards that list the holder's full name, place of residence and religion, and some ID cards carry a code indicating whether the holder has been in prison.

Whenever Israeli soldiers arrive at the scene of a confrontation or demonstration they usually confiscate the ID cards of all Palestinians in the vicinity. The soldiers then order them to carry out jobs such as clearing up stones from the streets, painting over graffiti, bringing down a Palestinian flag and so on. The soldiers keep the cards until the tasks are done. The soldiers also call the ID numbers over the radio to their headquarters to check whether the holder is a wanted person. For Palestinians, the ID cards have become so important that soldiers don't feel that they need to handcuff or keep Palestinian youths under constant surveillance when they have taken their cards away. If Palestinians give up their ID cards permanently, this will make a major dent in the Israelis' ability to control them and represent a major setback after the relative success of changing the ID cards in Gaza.

The people of Beit Sahour have been severely punished. As an initial response, 16 intellectuals were picked up. They included

A leading Palestinian, who declined to be identified, countered that they had proved their worth as strong self-help agencies that would not be swept away.

In Beit Sahour, an education committee set up classes when authorities closed schools, and a security committee enlisted guards after 1,000 Arab policemen resigned as part of the Palestinian policy of cutting links with Israel.

Residents said the town had also set up an agriculture committee to encourage raising crops.

Some West Bank committees have been headed by Palestinians freed in a 1985 prisoner exchange of 1,150 Arabs for three Israeli soldiers held by a Palestinian group, security sources said.

## ... leads civil disobedience

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the head of the biology department at Bethlehem University, accused of being a member of the local committee in Beit Sahour — a charge he denies. It is believed his real offence is his active support to locals in growing their own food.

Beit Sahour was placed under curfew for ten consecutive days with only two two-hour breaks. Telephones were cut off and political and religious dignitaries were not allowed to visit the town. Among those barred was the new Latin Patriarch, Michel Sabah, and the dean of the consular corp in Jerusalem, the Greek consul-general, Ilias Meltzos. After five days the Israelis reconnected the telephone lines to the mayor and three other individuals. Residents who sneaked out of town told reporters that the army was harassing the people and telling them that this was punishment for having given up their ID cards.

On Israeli television the head of the civil administration said that the fight against the committees will continue, especially in Beit Sahour. Residents say the ten-day curfew helped strengthen the committee since it played a leading role in distributing food to all the residents. The curfew thus gave the city a chance to try out its preparations for self-sufficiency. The arrested intellectuals are believed to be in administrative detention and will probably stay in prison for six months — Middle East International, London.

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## U.S. courts Eastern Europe

By George Gedda  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — As an outgrowth of the new era in Soviet-American relations, the United States has been casting a far more benign eye toward Moscow's allies in Eastern Europe, engaging in contacts that would have seemed impossible just two years ago.

For years, Washington tended to look on the East Europeans as submissive stepchildren of Moscow, with little room to manoeuvre either in their internal or external policies.

But since the advent of the Gorbachev era in 1985, the Reagan administration has been quietly expanding its contacts among east bloc countries, especially Poland and Hungary.

These efforts bore fruit this past week with the first visit ever to Washington by a Hungarian Communist Party leader and the first in nine years by a Polish foreign minister.

Contacts elsewhere have been accelerating as well. Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead, who has been given special responsibility for Eastern Europe, has visited each of the bloc countries at least twice.

The Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs, Rozanne Ridgway, has had a particular interest in Eastern Europe since her days as ambassador to East Germany and has worked hard on developing closer ties with bloc countries.

There has been a more active dialogue with Bulgaria lately. But Romania, which once received special treatment because of its willingness to disagree with Moscow, has fallen from favour after renouncing a beneficial trade arrangement it had with the United States and because of its poor domestic human rights record.

U.S. relations with Poland hit bottom in 1981 when the administration slapped on a series of sanctions after Polish authorities imposed martial law. The administration responded to gradual political liberalisation by lifting sanctions one by one until the last of the measures was lifted in 1987.

"We have normalised our relations" Foreign Minister Tadeusz Olechowski said Thursday after a

meeting with U.S. Secretary of State George F. Shultz. He invited Shultz to reciprocate his visit.

More noteworthy was the visit the previous day of Hungarian Communist Party leader Karoly Grosz with President Reagan. Grosz, who was named to that post in May after serving as premier for the past year.

Hungary embarked on a series of economic and social experiments in the late 1960s, but dissidents say not enough has been done.

Like Mikhail Gorbachev, Grosz is an advocate of economic and political reform to remedy Hungary's economic problems, winning plaudits from U.S. officials for his candidness.

"We have been impressed with your openness to new ideas," Reagan told Grosz Wednesday. As Grosz carried out his U.S. travels, it was sometimes easy to overlook his Marxist underpinnings. He spent 11 days on his U.S. tour, moving easily among business people and others while visiting California, New York and Illinois, where he witnessed the signing of a \$115-million joint venture between a U.S. glass firm and a Hungarian enterprise.

Both Poland and Hungary are plagued by huge foreign debts and are eager for greater access to U.S. markets. But as Warsaw Pact allies of the Soviet Union, their purchases of American products will have to be limited to non-strategic items.

And, although both Poland and Hungary give their citizens more freedom than other bloc countries, both remain committed to continuing one-party rule. Their military alliances with Moscow appear to be very much intact. The Soviets have 65,000 troops in Hungary and 40,000 in Poland.

Still, American officials are pleased with the evolution in both countries. Grosz in particular has a popular following for his willingness to expand the capitalist sector and to encourage more foreign private investment.

Grosz said Tuesday he is trying "to establish something new, something more modern, something more efficient in the interest of developing the Hungarian nation."

## PLO affirms commitment to PNC

(Continued from page 1)

The council also reaffirmed its commitment to the PLO and said the PLO would shoulder all its national and pan-Arab responsibilities in its capacity as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and bear the consequences and results of its moves, the statement said.

"The council reaffirmed the Palestinian leadership's commitment to the Palestinian people and the Palestinian people's adherence to the leadership as well as the unique relations between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples as was confirmed in earlier resolutions."

"The council therefore recommends that the PLO Executive Committee study all aspects and consequences of the Jordanian decision and take the necessary action and hold contacts with Jordan and other Arab states, friendly countries and international organisations with the aim of giving more strength to the Palestinian people to pursue their uprising against the Zionist occupation and regain their inalienable rights, including the right to return to their land and determine their future in their land."

"Furthermore, the council also asks the Executive Committee to exercise self-restraint in its actions and asks Executive Committee members to refrain from giving any statement outside the legal framework of the committee and except through the PLO chairman at this critical juncture that the Arab Nation is passing through."

## Arab media welcome Jordan move

(Continued from page 1)

an independent Palestinian state on Palestine soil and the creation of a confederation with Jordan if the Palestinian people so desire.

The Jordanian response to Arab demands came at a crucial time and presented a difficult challenge for the PLO which is now expected by the Arab World to shoulder its new responsibilities towards the Palestinians in the West Bank," the paper said.

It said the PLO should come up with "new measures to organise the administrative and financial system in the West Bank so that the Palestinian people there can feel no vacuum following the Jordanian decision at a time when the oppressed inhabitants are involved in a heroic struggle for freedom."

The paper urged Arab states to extend support for the PLO to help it through what it called this bitter test.

The Al Akhbar newspaper of Cairo said Jordan's decision had upset the Israelis who had hoped to continue evicting the Palestinian people into the East Bank, which Israel considers as an alternative homeland for the Palestinian people. The paper expressed surprise at remarks by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, who repeated the U.S. policy of not negotiating with the PLO despite the fact that His Majesty King Hussein reaffirmed the organisation's status as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Shultz's statement, the paper said, cast doubts on U.S. credibility and raises scepticism about its claims

of seeking a solution for the Palestine problem.

The paper said it was the last chance for Palestinian leaders inside and outside the occupied territories to highlight their identity and display their keenness to protect the Palestinian people's interests.

Tunisian newspapers said the King had given the PLO its right to handle the affairs of the Palestinians, and was also clear on the point of continued support for the organisation and the Palestinian people in their struggle for freedom.

Al Siyassa of Kuwait was critical of Arab countries which it said had failed over the past 40 years to help the Palestinians to regain their rights.



## Israeli activists say Faisal Hussein is a man of peace

**OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP)** — Faisal Hussein, a top Palestinian activist jailed by the Israeli occupation authorities has emerged as a local leader respected by leftist Israelis for his willingness to negotiate directly with the Zionist state.

"Hussein has a keen sense of realism, and in this case, realism means compromise," said Moshe Amirav, who was kicked out of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's right-wing Likud bloc after holding secret talks with Hussein last year.

The soft-spoken Hussein, 48, was arrested Sunday and ordered held without trial for six months. He already has served 12 months in prison under two similar sentences.

One period of arrest began in September 1987, shortly after Hussein's talks with Amirav were revealed. The latest arrest came days after he told an Israeli audience in a rare public dialogue that he endorsed direct talks with Israeli leaders, including hardliner Shamir.

His detention was seen as an effort by Israel to prevent the expansion of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) activities following Sunday's decision by Jordan to sever legal and administrative ties with the occupied West Bank.

U.S. officials and Israeli liberals condemned Hussein's arrest, saying Israel should encourage Palestinians who seek accommodation with Israel.

"If I were prime minister, I

wouldn't have put him in jail. I would have said to him, 'let's sit down and talk business,'" Amirav said.

The Israeli newspaper Davar described Hussein as an important potential negotiating partner and said he would be a contender for the job of prime minister in a future Palestinian state.

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin has described Hussein as the top PLO official in the occupied territories and has accused him of inciting protests against the Israeli occupation.

### Background

Hussein is a scion of one of the largest and most powerful Palestinian families.

His great uncle was Haj Amin Al Husseini, the mufti of Jerusalem who served as president of the Supreme Muslim Council in Palestine from 1920 to 1944.

Faisal Hussein's father, Abdul Khader Hussein, commanded Arab forces in Jerusalem in the 1948 war. He was killed in the fighting.

As a young man, Hussein studied at a military college in Damascus and became an X-ray technician. He later developed a love for history, and studied the subject for two years in Beirut in the 1970s.

He had to break off his studies when Israeli officials placed him under town arrest in Jerusalem from 1981 to 1987, forbidding him from leaving the city limits and confining him to his home from sundown to sunrise.



Faisal Hussein

He was accused of subversive activities, but never put on trial. Police said after Hussein's arrest Sunday that he had renewed "subversive hostile activities," including coordination and incitement of the almost eight-month-old uprising in the occupied territories.

Police also closed Hussein's Arab Studies Centre for one year, charging it was controlled and financed by the PLO and served as a meeting place for PLO activists.

Staff members said the institute was funded by international grants and provided information about the Palestinian people and its history.

Four days before his latest arrest, Hussein participated in a public dialogue with leftist Israelis, fielding tough questions from some participants and winning applause for his answers.

Asked whether Palestinians would be satisfied with a state alongside Israel, he said:

"Indeed, I do have a dream. But just as I am not willing to let others impose their dreams on my fellow men."

Hussein's wife, Najat, said she believes her husband was arrested because of his dialogue with Israeli peace activists.

"Whenever he speaks about peace," she said, "they put him in prison."

### Dutch seek release

The Netherlands urged Israel Tuesday to release Hussein.

A Dutch Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said Henk Vijverberg, travelling ambassador and the ministry's most senior political civil servant, made the appeal at a regular meeting with the Israeli ambassador in the Hague.

"Vijverberg expressed the Dutch government's concern over Hussein's detention. The Netherlands has always voiced criticism over Israel's policy to detain Palestinian activists, especially moderate ones," spokeswoman Renee Groenewoud said.

"How can we have fruitful talks with the Palestinians when you jail them," she added.

## U.S. probe finds human error in Airbus downing

**NEW YORK (Agencies)** — Defence Department investigators have concluded that human error was primarily responsible for the shooting down of an Iranian jetliner by a U.S. warship, according to a published report Wednesday.

The official American report on the disaster that killed 290 people last month says that the sophisticated radar equipment on board the cruiser USS Vincennes functioned well, the ABC News television network reported Tuesday.

In its Wednesday editions, the New York Times said the investigators believed the crew members' error stemmed from the psychological stress of being in combat for the first time.

U.S. navy officials have said the report would not be released before mid-August. Rear Admiral William M. Fogarty heads the team that is investigating the disaster. Fogarty presented his findings Monday to General George Crist, commander of the U.S.

The report also indicates the plane was climbing rather than descending towards the ship, as officials first said.

Information on a plane's speed and altitude are not presented on the main Aegis radar screen on board the Vincennes but must be called up separately on a smaller screen by one of the officers operating the system, ABC News said.

The network said it could not immediately be learned whether the report concluded that those in the ship's combat information centre misinterpreted the information on the screens, or conveyed it inaccurately to Captain Will C. Rogers, who made the decision to fire.

### 'Misinterpretations of signals'

The Times, quoting unidentified officials familiar with the inquiry, said the error stemmed from misinterpretations by radar operators who "in the stress of

battle... mistakenly convinced themselves that the aircraft they had spotted" on their screens was hostile.

The investigators concluded that tension aboard the Vincennes was particularly high because the ship had just engaged in a brief battle with some Iranian attack boats, the Times said, noting that the ship's crew had received extensive training but had never been in battle before.

The newspaper said the full conclusions of the investigators were not known but "it is also believed that the Vincennes crew mistook an electronic identification signal from a C-130 aircraft at Bandar Abbas airport to be from the passenger airliner."

Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman William Crowe defended Rogers after the plane was downed. American military officials said the plane was approaching in an "attack pattern" and transmitting military-style transponder signals.

Iran denied both claims. Crowe is still convinced that Rogers acted properly on the basis of information available to him, ABC News reported.

### ICAO team in Bandar Abbas

Iran said Wednesday a team from the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) had arrived in the southern port of Bandar Abbas to investigate the downing of the Airbus.

During its three-day visit, the team will visit the crash site near Hangam Island in the Strait of Hormuz and examine wreckage recovered from the seabed, the Iranian news agency IRNA said.

The agency said the five-member team would review search operations and visit Bandar Abbas airport.

Iran said Sunday that 182 bodies had been recovered from the Gulf and the search for the plane's flight recorder was continuing.

## Bourguiba celebrates birthday in seclusion

**TUNIS (R)** — Former President Habib Bourguiba spent his birthday Wednesday in seclusion and with none of the pomp and splendour that marked the occasion when he was in power.

Instead the anniversary — the first since Bourguiba was declared senile and removed from office last November — passed amid apparent national indifference.

As the new regime of President Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali dismantles the trappings of Bourguiba's 30-year rule, even the ex-head of state's age — officially 85, but probably 87 according to a recent biography — is now openly in dispute.

Far from his east coast home town of Monastir, where he celebrated previous birthdays with fanfare, Bourguiba has been held under medical supervision on a cypress tree-lined estate south of Tunis since his enforced retirement.

Family friends said no special celebration was planned on his birthday which is no longer a national holiday and was ignored by official media.

A song traditionally broadcast to mark the occasion, lauding the prowess of the "supreme fight-

er," has been banned and no birthday cannon will be fired in Monastir.

Bourguiba used to visit his magnificent mausoleum at the time of his birthday, but work on it has been stopped.

The authorities have not replied to a request by the ex-president to spend the summer in Skanes Palace, near Monastir, family friends said.

They said Bourguiba read daily newspapers, watched television and took regular walks in the garden of the well-guarded estate at Mornag.

These walks, when he was in power at Carthage Palace, would be broadcast daily on television. His summertime swims, with dives into the sea in his younger days from rocks on Monastir beach, could also be seen nationwide.

While statues of Bourguiba have been removed and main streets renamed to erase his legacy in many towns, Tunisia's first president is still hailed as a historical figure.

Ibn Ali, addressing the ruling party, which Bourguiba dominated for more than half a century, paid public tribute last week to the ex-president's achievements.



Habib Bourguiba

"We are proud of the contributions made by ex-President Habib Bourguiba to the national movement," he told more than 2,000 delegates at the opening of the party congress last Friday.

But he added: "What is important for us today is to get on, in a clear sighted and civilised way, with the job of preserving, reforming and building."

Before the party congress, Ibn Ali changed nearly half his cabinet, ousting most remaining figures from the Bourguiba era.

He has said he will call general elections before they are due in 1991, but set no date.

## Vassiliou: Conditions ripe for Cyprus peace

**WASHINGTON (Agencies)** — President George Vassiliou of Cyprus said Tuesday the international climate was right for next month's negotiations at the United Nations to resolve the Cyprus problem.

"The time is now. The climate is right. The omens are good," he told reporters at the National Press Club.

Vassiliou, in Washington for talks with senior officials, said international tensions are being reduced because the two superpowers are cooperating, regional conflicts are being settled and the United Nations is playing a stronger peace-making role.

Vassiliou will meet Turkish Cypriot leaders at the United Nations Aug. 24 to try to negotiate a solution to the island's conflict between the Turkish and the Greek communities.

A solution proposes Cyprus should become a federal republic with two states — one administered by the Greek Cypriots, the other by the Turkish Cypriots, he said.

"But Cyprus will be one country, with a single international personality," he said. He called on Turkey to with-

draw its 29,000 troops stationed in Cyprus and to demilitarise the country, proposing the deployment of an international peace-keeping force.

Vassiliou also pledged his country would not seek union with Greece if Turkish troops departed.

"The concept of union with Greece is not any more considered a realistic objective," Vassiliou said at a news conference. Turkey invaded the island in 1974 ostensibly to protect the minority Turkish Cypriot population against the possibility that Cyprus would unite with Greece.

About 70 per cent of the island's population are Greek Cypriots.

If the Turkish troops and tanks depart, Vassiliou said, Cyprus will give up its sovereign right to have its own military forces and dismiss its army of 10,000.

"The several hundred million dollars saved would be diverted to economic development, especially the Turkish Cypriot community, which has fallen behind," he said.

"Today, the free part of Cyprus has a healthy economy," he said earlier in a speech.

## Prince Philip's mother finally buried in Jerusalem

**OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R)** — Princess Andrew of Greece, mother of Britain's Prince Philip and mother-in-law of Queen Elizabeth, was buried in Jerusalem in accordance with her last wishes Wednesday, 19 years after her death.

The princess was a Greek Orthodox nun for the last 20 years of her life, and her body had awaited transfer to Jerusalem from Windsor Castle in England since her death in 1969 at the age of 84.

Political and religious barriers stood in the way of her burial in Jerusalem.

"It was her dying wish to be buried near her aunt, the late Grand Duchess Elizabeth, whom she greatly loved and admired," said a British consulate official in Jerusalem.

A dispute arose because of the religious problems in burying the Greek Orthodox Princess Andrew next to her aunt in a "white" Russian Orthodox church.

A compromise was struck, and before dawn Wednesday 73-year-old Princess George of Hanover, Prince Philip's eldest sister, flew in with the coffin at the head of a rare royal delegation.

Israeli bodyguards said the other royal visitors were the queen's domestic chaplain the dean of Windsor and his wife, and royal funeral director Christopher Kenyon. Consul General Ivan Callan and his wife represented the British government.

British officials, commenting on Israeli press speculation that Prince Philip would attend, said

there had never been such a plan. Buckingham Palace declined to comment.

After a commemoration service on the Mount of Olives led by the Greek Orthodox patriarch of Jerusalem, the remains were taken to their final resting place at the nearby onion-domed Russian Orthodox Church, St. Mary Magdalene in Gethsemane.

Six Israeli bodyguards, one wearing the blue-and-white knitted skullcap of a religious Jew, served as pallbearers and lifted the coffin, draped in the family coat of arms, onto a trolley which they rolled into the church.

## More indictments expected in Libya case

**ALEXANDRIA, Virginia (AP)** — More indictments are expected in an alleged plot to divert Libyan government money for recruiting dissident support in the United States, a U.S. government prosecutor said Tuesday.

Six Libyans and two other Arab nationals are accused in a 40-count indictment, which makes no mention of previous accusations that one of the defendants took part in a plot to assassinate a senior U.S. official, purportedly former White House aide Oliver North, who helped plan the 1986 bombing of Libya.

U.S. District Judge T.S. Ellis gave three men until 5 p.m. (2200 GMT) Thursday to appeal an order that they be jailed for civil contempt of court for refusing to testify before the grand jury investigating the case.

The three have been told they are not targets of the investigation. They were promised immunity from prosecution but refused to testify in protest over the government's wire tapping of their phones and what they said were other violations of their rights.

Attorney John Keats, representing Vernon Bellecourt and William Means, argued that since the grand jury had already returned indictments, their testimony was not needed.

Assistant U.S. attorney Lawrence J. Leiser said, however, that the grand jury, which under U.S. law is called to determine whether a person should be charged, was considering more charges.

Last week's indictments charge the eight with laundering money

and violating the 1986 Libyan sanctions regulations that prohibit travel to and transactions with Libya.

Bellecourt, of the White Earth Chippewa Nation from Northern Minnesota, said he visited Libya several times and was one of the organisers of a 1987 rally in Tripoli marking the first anniversary of the U.S. bombing. Means, of the International Indian Treaty Council, has also acknowledged visiting Libya. The third person involved in the grand jury contempt case is Bob Brown, of the All-African People's Revolutionary Party, which supports a unified Africa.

"We proudly travelled to Libya to condemn this government's barbaric attack and reaffirm our First Amendment Right," Brown told a news conference before the hearing.

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# OPEC ministers start talks on oil prices, overproduction

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (R) — Five key OPEC oil ministers met Wednesday to see if the group could do anything about some members' excess output which is being blamed for a glut and weak prices.

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries' (OPEC's) pricing committee of Algeria, Indonesia, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela has the power to call an emergency meeting of all 13 group members.

But industry analysts said it was unlikely to do that as there was no guarantee that any concrete measures would emerge to stop output quota violations and buoy prices.

Princes eased some 30 cents a barrel before the talks started. British North Sea Brent blend, the most widely traded grade on the spot or free crude oil market, was quoted at \$15 a barrel for September delivery — well below a benchmark \$18 which OPEC is pledged to defend.

Traders and oil industry analysts said the market had risen recently on expectations of a quick end to the Iran-Iraq war, which might ease tensions within OPEC.

But the market is now sceptical

about Gulf peace prospects and over what might come out of the Lausanne talks.

"There is a general realisation that the OPEC talks are unlikely to achieve much and that the Gulf war may not be ending soon after all," Fergus Macleod of London brokers Barclays De Zoete Wedd said.

OPEC Secretary-General Subroto, a former Indonesian oil minister and veteran OPEC negotiator, is at the talks here which are being held in a luxury hotel and may last only a day.

He reaffirmed Tuesday that the United Arab Emirates, which has said its OPEC quota of 948,000 barrels daily is unfair, had now pledged to respect OPEC output rules.

But the UAE recently said it would produce 1.5 million barrels daily from August.

Meanwhile a Reuters survey of industry sources Tuesday put total OPEC production at an 11-month high of 18.98 million barrels daily in July, up from 18.5 million in June.

If OPEC were strictly keeping to its quotas it would be producing only about 17.5 million barrels.

The sources said most of the July rise in output came from Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Kuwait and Iraq.

But Saudi Minister Hisham Nazer said in Lausanne that the kingdom was within its quota.

Saudi Arabia and Kuwait have been lending Iraq revenue from the Neutral Zone on their common border, whose output of 400,000 barrels daily they share, to help its war effort against non-Arab Iran.

Subroto said the likely effect of an end to the fighting would be discussed but that there were two conflicting schools of thought on this.

He said one held that, with the war ended, OPEC unity would be boosted and efforts to curb supplies and raise prices would be more fruitful.

The other was that Iran and Iraq would maximise output to raise cash to rebuild their shattered economies and repay debts.

Union and oil-exporting states. In 1987, the United States remained the world's biggest food exporter, shipping 12.3 per cent of the world total, followed by France with 8.1 per cent, the Netherlands with 7.4 per cent, Canada with 5.8 per cent and West Germany with 5.5 per cent.

As a whole, the 12 European Community (EC) states shipped 37.7 per cent of world farm exports last year, but only 14.7 per cent if trade within the bloc is excluded.

Japan was the biggest agricultural importer last year, taking 10.9 per cent of world imports, followed by the United States with 10.5 per cent and West Germany with 10.3 per cent.

The EC took 44.5 per cent of the value of global agricultural imports, but only 25.3 per cent if intra-EC trade is excluded.

Developing countries tended to subsidise food consumption to satisfy city dwellers, further boosting imports — for example, a standard white bread loaf costs 177 cents per kilogramme in the United States, 10 cents in Brazil and 18 cents in Egypt.

The IWC, noting the impact of the present American drought, said developing countries were vulnerable to any rise in prices. If these did no more than return to 1980 levels, the cost of Third World imports would jump to \$25 billion from \$14 billion in 1986.

"The ability of many developing countries to cope with high prices has probably been reduced because of their chronic financial difficulties," the study added.

Industrial countries are expected to import only 47 million tonnes by 2000, down from 103 million now, leaving world grain trade nearly the same by the turn of the century as now at about 215 million tonnes.

## Officials promote Jordan trade

AMMAN (J.T.) — Brazil's ambassador to Jordan Felix De Faria Tuesday met with Industry and Trade Minister Hamdi Tabbaa and handed him a draft trade agreement between Brazil and Jordan.

The agreement will be compared with a Jordanian draft prior to final agreement on a joint version which will be signed later, according to a report in the local press.

It said that the agreement will facilitate the sale of Jordanian potash and other products in exchange for Brazilian goods.

Brazil is a major importer of Jordanian potash of which Jordan

last year exported 100,000 tonnes to various countries.

A report in the Sawt Al Shaab Arabic newspaper said that Amman Chamber of Industry's President Khalidoun Abu Hassan also discussed marketing Jordanian products in Britain and China during meetings with attaches of these countries in Amman Tuesday.

The chamber, according to the paper, had circulated invitations to various embassies to visit the chamber's permanent exhibition of national products.

According to the paper, the chamber is now involved in studies for establishing a council for

developing and promoting the sale of Jordanian products abroad.

The board would be entrusted with facilitating exports and providing information about international markets for Jordanian producers.

### Accord with USSR

In another development, the Jordanian government is reported working out a draft agreement on trade with the Soviet Union. Sawt Al Shaab said that Jordan and the Soviet Union last year signed a programme on cultural, and scientific cooperation following His Majesty King Hussein's visit to the Soviet Union.

## Report sees crisis over Third World food bills

LONDON (R) — A future in which the Third World needs huge grain imports to feed its people but cannot afford prices that would persuade exporters to grow it was envisaged Tuesday by the International Wheat Council (IWC).

A study by the IWC, a worldwide grain trade organisation, said developing countries may account for almost 80 per cent of trade in grains by the year 2000, compared with half in 1985.

"Developing countries are becoming more and more reliant on the world market to provide their basic food needs," it said.

But it also said: "There is an evident, and possibly widening, gap between the prices which many of the importers can afford to pay for their grain and the returns which producers, even low cost ones, need if they are to remain in business."

It said its projections were tentative.

But it thought it likely that grain imports by Third World nations and China would reach 170 million tonnes by the year 2000, from 101 million in 1985.

Third World imports were headed higher not only because of rapidly rising populations, dietary changes and economic growth, but because of an influx of poor people to the cities.

Developing countries tended to subsidise food consumption to satisfy city dwellers, further boosting imports — for example, a standard white bread loaf costs 177 cents per kilogramme in the United States, 10 cents in Brazil and 18 cents in Egypt.

The IWC, noting the impact of the present American drought, said developing countries were vulnerable to any rise in prices. If these did no more than return to 1980 levels, the cost of Third World imports would jump to \$25 billion from \$14 billion in 1986.

"The ability of many developing countries to cope with high prices has probably been reduced because of their chronic financial difficulties," the study added.

Industrial countries are expected to import only 47 million tonnes by 2000, down from 103 million now, leaving world grain trade nearly the same by the turn of the century as now at about 215 million tonnes.

## French police uncover international swindle

PARIS (R) — French police said Tuesday they had arrested several ringleaders of an international fraud involving the sale of fake North American stock with a face value of millions of dollars.

Police sources said seven people had been arrested in France, two in West Germany, and two in Switzerland in the past few days. They included Americans, Germans, Swiss, a Briton, a Canadian and a 24-year-old Indian-born businessman. Police said they ran a network of phoney financial newsletter companies promoting and selling non-existent U.S. stocks.

Worthless paper with a minimum face value of between \$80 and \$150 million had been sold to unsuspecting investors over the past two years, they said.

The sources said the network of fraudulent investment companies was believed to be active in Bahrain, Argentina, Liechtenstein, Cyprus, Sweden and France. They said profits from the scheme were laundered through a Gibraltar bank account.

A senior politician from the Alpine tax-haven of Liechtenstein had also been questioned in the affair by French police who visited the principality, they added.

Three Americans arrested in Lyon and Cannes last Friday and charged with fraud Monday were alleged to have operated the French end of the swindle.

They were named as Thomas

Quinn, Rachel Rothfleisch, and Dominik Di Mare. A British citizen identified as Carl Davies, 41, was among those arrested, police sources said.

The sources named several financial companies, investment newsletters and fake North American stocks which allegedly figured in the scheme.

The swindle — described by investigators as remarkably simple — relied on the fact that the performance of over-the-counter stock is scantily reported outside the United States, the sources said.

Transactions in the over-the-counter market are conducted by telephone and telex directly between dealers as principals rather than agents, and not on a highly-regulated trading floor.

"The newsletters," sent free of charge to a target list of potential investors, would strongly recommend likely-sounding stock which would later be sold over the telephone to those interested. No certificates were ever delivered to buyers.

Later issues of the bulletin would chart the stock's fictitious rise and the buyers would be encouraged to reinvest their profits in more non-existent shares, investigators said.

After a few months the newsletters suddenly ceased appearing, and the swindlers moved on to a fresh patch, with a different set of company names to promote a new set of stocks.

## U.S. urged to take lead to ease Third World debt

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two top U.S. financiers and a former cabinet member from Colombia called on the United States to take the lead in a new strategy for easing the burden on the Third World of its \$1.2 trillion debt.

James D. Robinson III, chairman of the American Express Co., Tuesday pressed for setting up an independent "institute of international debt and development" to buy up Third World debt at a discount and benefit the debtors by reducing interest rates.

He said this should be done through a joint venture by the

World Bank and its sister organisation, the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Both the World Bank and the IMF have 151 member governments, with the United States having the biggest voting strength, but decisions for both bodies are reached mainly through consensus.

Eugene H. Rotberg, executive vice president of Merrill Lynch and Co., and Rodrigo Botero, former finance minister of Colombia, both supported a role in this matter for the World Bank, where Rotberg served as vice president.

### AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Wednesday rates Local sell/buy rates in Jds			
Belgian franc (for 100)	94.1/95.0	Saudi riyal	99.7/102.5
Dutch guilder	174.4/176.1	Syrian lira	11.0/11.5
French franc	58.4/59.0	Lebanese lira	1.1/1.14
Italian lira (for 100)	26.7/27.0	Iraqi dinar	310.0/322.5
Japanese yen (for 100)	278.1/280.9	Kuwaiti dinar	1320.0/1330.0
Swedish crown	57.4/58.0	Egyptian pound	160.0/164.0
Swiss franc	236.3/238.7	Omani rial	102.2/103.0
U.K. sterling pound	629.8/636.1	UAE dirham	101.3/101.8
U.S. dollar	369.5/373.5	Qatari riyal	967.0/972.5
Deutschmark	197.0/199.0	Bahraini dinar	985.0/992.5

### AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Activity on the Amman Financial Market for August 3, 1988.

	Number	Volume	Contracts
Regular market:	259463	JD 240973	357
Top three companies:			
Intermediate			
Petrochemical Industries	40504	JD 50389	62
Jordan Cement Factories	40084	JD 49645	55
Darco for Housing and Investment	45900	JD 24914	37
Parallel market:	11800	JD 4747	—
Development bonds:	—	—	—
Treasury bills & bonds:	—	—	—
Other debentures:	—	—	—

### JORDAN BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Ministry of Industry and Trade	663191	Jordan Commercial Centres Corporation	603507
Ministry of Supply	662121	Free Zones Corporation	642001
Ministry of Finance	663631	Amman Financial Market	660170
Ministry of Planning	644466	Amman Chamber of Commerce	666151
Ministry of Labour	663186	Amman Chamber of Industry	644747
Ministry of Communications	847391	Association of Banks in Jordan	662258
Ministry of Agriculture	639391	Jordan Association of Insurance Companies	647370
Income Tax Department	660151	General Statistics Department	646171
Central Bank of Jordan	630301	Jordanian Businessmen Association	680663
Amman Customs Department	772181		
Social Security Corporation	643000		
Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation	721194		

### LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One Sterling	1.7050/60	U.S. dollar	
One U.S. dollar	1.2060/70	Canadian dollar	
	1.8765/75	Deutschmark	
	2.1160/70	Dutch guilders	
	1.5645/55	Swiss francs	
	39.25/28	Belgian francs	
	6.3270/3300	French francs	
	1383/1384	Italian lire	
	133.10/20	Japanese yen	
	6.4320/70	Swedish crowns	
	6.7970/8020	Norwegian crowns	
	7.1215/65	Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	431.55/432.05	U.S. dollars	

### WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — The market closed easier as investors took profits in all sectors. The All Ordinaries closed down 1.7 at 1,622.1.

TOKYO — Prices closed mixed with the market pausing after climbs for seven straight days, culminating in a record close Tuesday. The Nikkei index fell 17.88 to 28,348.45.

HONG KONG — Stocks closed slightly lower in fairly quiet trading clouded by concern about a flurry of forthcoming fund-raising exercises by listed companies. The Hang Seng index fell 8.46 to 2,692.63.

SINGAPORE — Prices forged ahead in the afternoon to close moderately higher on sustained buying interest and short-covering in active trading. The Straits Times industrial index rose 9.37 to 1,170.20.

BOMBAY — Shares fell after the government ruled out tax relief on dividend income. Tata Steel fell 10 rupees to 822.5.

FRANKFURT — Prices closed mixed in light trading, after profit-taking wiped out some early gains inspired by strong first-half results for Deutsche Bank and Hoechst. The Dax index rose 3.46 to 1,187.67.

ZURICH — The market closed slightly higher in fairly quiet trading. The All Share Swiss index rose 4.2 to 893.6.

PARIS — Prices ended the continuous session easier in quiet trading.

LONDON — Share prices edged towards the day's highs in late-afternoon trading, reflecting Wall Street's recovery from early modest declines. Dealers said interest remained largely focused on speculative stocks while a lower sterling underpinned demand for international issues. At 1520 GMT, the FTSE 100 index was up 9.4 at 1,864.9.

NEW YORK — Stocks were narrowly mixed and directionless in late-morning trading. The Dow was up two at 2,134.

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Performances 3.30, 6.15, 8.30, 10.30

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**REVENGE OF THE NERDS II**

Performances 3.30, 6.00, 8.30, 10.30



### SPORTS IN BRIEF

#### Honeyghan offered \$500,000 to fight Curry

NEW YORK (AP) — Top Rank has offered World Boxing Council (WBC) welterweight champion Lloyd Honeyghan of Britain a guarantee of \$500,000 to fight Donald Curry of the United States, for his WBC super welterweight title in October, a spokesman said Tuesday. Curry won his title in Italy when he knocked out Italian Gianfranco Rosti on July 8. Honeyghan won the world welterweight title from Curry on Sept. 27, 1986 with a sixth-round knockout in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

#### Leverkusen beats PSV Eindhoven

LEVERKUSEN, West Germany (R) — UEFA Cup holders Bayer Leverkusen of West Germany beat European Cup winners PSV Eindhoven of The Netherlands 1-0 (halftime 0-0) in a soccer friendly Tuesday. Polish striker Marek Lesniak scored in the 72nd minute after a mistake by Dutch international Ronald Koeman.

#### Wittmann leads Argentine rally

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Franz Wittmann of Austria won the first stage of the Argentine motor rally on a sandy course at the Buenos Aires horse racing track Tuesday night. Wittmann, driving a Lancia, went around the two-mile (three km) course in two minutes 40.23 seconds at an average speed of 43 mph (69 kph). Italian Massimo Biasion, who is looking to clinch the World Drivers' Championship by winning the Argentine rally for the third straight year, was fifth in his Lancia. Local star Jorge Recalde, also driving a Lancia, was second just over four seconds behind Wittmann, one of only a handful of Europeans taking part. Austrians Rudi Stohl and Georg Fischer, driving Audi Quattros, were third and fourth respectively.

#### Australian 1,500-metre champ injured

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Australian 1,500 metres champion Mike Hillardt underwent an operation on a troublesome Achilles tendon injury at the weekend and could miss the Seoul Olympic games in September, his coach said Wednesday. Earlier this month the injury forced Hillardt to withdraw from a series of meets in Europe. Hillardt, 27, currently is on crutches, but hopes to resume light training within 10 days, said coach Norm Osborne. Former world indoor champion Hillardt, an eight-time Australian champion over the distance, last year qualified for the final of the 1,500 metres at the World Track and Field Championships in Rome. He set an Australian Allcomers' 1,500 metres record of 3 minutes 34.06 seconds in Melbourne in March. Hillardt was a semi-finalist in the 1,500 metres at the Los Angeles Olympics four years ago.

#### U.S. diver charged in fatal car crash

TAMPA, Florida (R) — Olympic silver medal diver Bruce Kimball was charged with causing the deaths of two people on Tuesday after he crashed his sports car into a crowd of teenagers, killing two and injuring six, police said. Police said Kimball raced his late model sports car down a dead-end road, careened off several other cars and rammed into a crowd of about 20 people in the small town of Brandon, Florida. Kimball, a 25-year-old platform diver who had been training for a spot on the U.S. team for the Seoul Olympics, won a silver medal in platform diving at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics. U.S. Olympic diving coach Ron O'Brien said Kimball, who was released on bail, might be allowed to compete for a position on the team despite the criminal charges he faces.

#### THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



"I think my secretary is falling in love with me! She only insulted me 20 times today!"



Hundreds of high school students rehearse a traditional Korean dance in preparation for the Seoul Olympics closing ceremony at Chamsil Main Stadium.

## S. Koreans seek Olympic limelight

By Lee Su-Wan  
Reuter

SEOUL — For sports-mad South Koreans a successful staging of this summer's Olympics is not enough, they want to see their athletes move emphatically into the world class and win a fistful of medals.

South Korea, which has tried as hard as any Asian country to enter the world league, astonished many observers by emerging as the second largest gold medal winner at the 1986 Seoul Asian Games — a dress rehearsal for the Olympics.

The South Koreans streaked away from rivals Japan to take 93 gold medals, only one behind the traditional Asian giant, China.

But there are fears among sports experts that this stunning regional performance may have given the country a false sense of confidence. Foreign coaches say the Asian Games cannot even be compared to a U.S. national athletics meeting.

Sports officials here initially predicted that South Korean athletes would win 10 to 15 Olympic gold medals on their home turf.

Seoul newspapers questioned the reality of these lofty ambitions in July last year when a 122-strong team which competed in all 12 sports at the World Student Games in Zagreb, Yugoslavia came back with no gold medals.

As a result, sports officials reviewed their initial predictions and say they will be happy with half the original estimate.

"Our target for the Seoul Olympics is to improve on our 10th place in the medal standings at the 1984 Los Angeles games when our athletes won six golds, six silvers and seven bronzes," said Kim Jip, head of South Korea's Olympic squad.

"It is true that our athletes are under great pressure psychologically because national expectations are extremely high for them," Kim said.

Although the South Koreans have undergone a draconian training regime for more than 18 months at a secluded camp in northeastern Seoul, there are signs they are still far behind world standards and may win only a handful of gold medals.

Some sports officials say they are afraid the South Koreans could even emulate the Canadians who, in 1976 at Montreal, became the only host country to fail to win a gold.

"The challenge this time is much tougher because the Seoul games provides the first Olympic competition between the top sports nations of East and West for 12 years," one official at the Korean Olympic Committee said.

South Korea is fielding its biggest-ever Olympic squad — 320 men and 157 women athletes — to compete in all 23 events at the Seoul Games.

Officials say the best Olympic chances will come in women's archery, boxing, judo, wrestling, shooting and table tennis.

South Korea's women's archery squad, comprising three high school girls, hopes to win both the team and individual events.

Among the youthful trio, 17-year-old Kim Su-Nyong is the local favourite. "Though she is young, she is bold and seldom loses her temper. Her recent records are much better than those of her nearest rivals in the Soviet Union and China," an official at the Korea Archery Association said.

South Korean chances also appear good in boxing with the Cubans boycotting the games.

Local boxing fans pin much hope on two-time flyweight world

cup champion Kim Kwang-Sun, 24, a bullish fighter with strong hooks.

South Korea also hopes to win golds in wrestling, which came to prominence when Yang Chong-Mo earned the country's first Olympic gold medal in the featherweight free-style event at the Montreal Games in 1976. South Korea went on to win two wrestling golds at Los Angeles.

In Judo, South Korea hopes to repeat its success in Los Angeles where Ahn Byeong-Keun and Hah Hyong-Zoo won top honours in the 71 kg and 95 kg weight divisions. Ahn and Hah, both 27,

will challenge this time to become two-time Olympic champions.

Traditional judo power Japan took four gold medals at the Los Angeles games, but two years later at the 1986 Seoul Asian Games, it lost its dominance in the sport by taking only two golds against South Korea's six.

In shooting, Kwak Jong-Hoon, 30, who won the men's smallbore standard rifle event in the pre-Olympic Shooting Championships last October in Seoul, is expected to pick up a medal.

Table tennis makes its Olympic debut in Seoul as an official sport.

## Olympic commemorative coins on sale to finance games

NEW YORK (R) — While athletes will compete for gold medals at the upcoming 1988 Seoul Olympics, fans can go for their own gold by buying commemorative coins issued to help pay for the events.

Billed as the most exclusive souvenir of the games, the gold and silver coins are for sale both to collectors and the general public.

Some 30,000 one-ounce gold coins have been minted, with the obverse side showing the Dabotap Pagoda, which was built in the eighth century. The reverse depicts the roses of Sharon, the national flower of Korea.

The coins, costing \$840 for the one-ounce gold coin and \$495 for the half-ounce gold coin, can increase in value over the years. "In the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, the 1,000 yen coin that sold for about three dollars is now worth about \$60," said MTB executive vice president Luis Vigdor.

One coin depicts wrestling, one of the most popular sports in Korea, and a Korean wrestling demonstration was given at Manhattan's Swank "21 club" Tuesday to mark the introduction of the coins.

Commemorative game coins date back to 480 B.C., when the first Olympic coins were struck. But it was not until 1951 — more than 50 years after the birth of the modern Olympics — that game coins returned to the market.

Kyung-Ho Kim, director general of the business department of the Seoul Olympic Organizing Committee, said revenue from the coin sales would provide about 10 per cent of the total direct costs of the games.

## Becker struggles to beat Nelson

INDIANAPOLIS (Agencies) — Two-time Wimbledon champion Boris Becker was pushed to three sets before winning and fourth-seed Tim Mayotte was upset in the second round of the U.S. Men's Hardcourt Championships Tuesday.

Becker, the West German superstar ranked fifth in the world and the top seed in this \$415,000 tournament battled two hours and 29 minutes for his 6-3, 6-7 (4-7), 6-2 victory over unseeded American Todd Nelson.

Mayotte, ranked 10th in the world, was ousted by fellow American Mark Dickson 7-6 (7-2), 6-3.

Nelson, 84th in the world, took Becker to the third set by winning the first five points of the tiebreak.

In the third set, however, Becker broke service for a 4-2 lead and did it again in the eighth game to win the match.

"I didn't want to stay out there for two and a half hours," he said. "I had enough chances to win in two sets. I got down on myself when I didn't."

This is Becker's first event since he finished second to Sweden's Stefan Edberg at Wimbledon, which he won in 1985 and 1986.

"My game plan was to keep the pressure on him," said Nelson, who has beaten some of the world's top players. "Playing him (Becker) you have to be ready for anything. I think I played a good match, but I can play better. The way the first set went (there was only one service break in the fourth game) I thought I could win."

Dickson, who ranks 147th in the world, said: "I dictated play more than he did. I was able to keep him off balance and make him miss. I play every point like it's a match point."

In the afternoon, American John Ross upset Australian Davis

copper John Fitzgerald.

Ross, who is ranked 153rd in the world, knocked off the seventh seeded Fitzgerald 6-3, 7-5 in one hour and 35 minutes.

Ross won the last four games of the first set and broke service in the 12th game of the second set with a passing forehand to beat Fitzgerald, who is ranked 27th.

Fitzgerald said Ross played "solid, and deserved to win. He has a very effective game and a serve that kicks high. I was sluggish, I wasn't getting to the ball."

#### Leconte-Rackl match postponed

In Kitzbuehel, Austria, the first-round match between top-seeded Henri Leconte of France and unseeded Markus Rackl at the Austrian Open Grand Prix tennis tournament was suspended Tuesday because of rain.

Leconte led the West German 7-6 in the first set when the match was halted on the second day of the \$290,000 tourney. The men's singles contest will be completed Wednesday.

Earlier, fourth-seeded Emilio Sanchez of Spain beat Alexander Antonitsch of Austria 6-1, 6-4 in an opening-round match, while unseeded Franco Davin of Argentina upset seventh-seeded Joakim Nyström of Sweden 6-2, 6-4.

In other first-round matches, Austrian Thomas Muster overcame West Germany's Hansjorg Schwaier 3-6, 6-3, 6-2; Alberto Mancini of Argentina defeated Austria's Horst Skoff 6-4, 1-6, 6-3; and Luiz Mattar of Brazil downed Austrian Oliver Fuchs 6-1, 6-2.

Also Czechoslovakia's Milan Srejber topped Spain's Javier Sanchez 1-6, 6-3, 6-4; Wojtek Kowalski of Poland ousted Australia's Mark Woodford 2-6, 6-2, 6-2 and Uruguay's Marcelo Filippini eliminated Carl-Uwe Steeb of West Germany 6-1, 7-6.

## Hungary introduces penalty shoot-outs into league soccer

BUDAPEST (R) — Hungary has introduced penalty shoot-outs into league soccer in a package of sweeping changes in the game which has been in turmoil here in recent years.

Penalties will decide the outcome when a match is drawn after 90 minutes, the Hungarian Football Association (MLSZ) announced ahead of Saturday's start to the season.

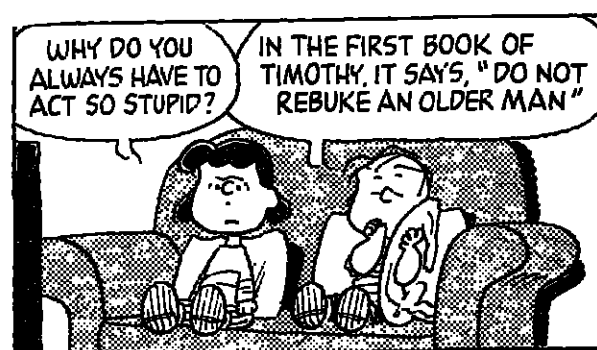
Hungarian soccer has been plagued by allegations of match-rigging and the once-powerful national side has had five managers in the last two years after suffering a number of humiliating defeats.

Under the new rules, a winning team after 90 minutes will receive three points instead of two. A side victorious in a penalty shoot-out will receive two points and the loser one.

The MLSZ has also decided to introduce a play-off system involving the teams finishing 13th and 14th in the 16-club first division and the runners-up in the two second division groups.

The bottom two clubs in the top division will be relegated and their places taken by the winners of the two second division.

### Peanuts



### Mutt'n' Jeff



### Andy Capp



### FIRST RACE 4.00 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 1400 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- A. El Kareem Salim Rakad	M. Rakad	Owner	Daltallah	56
2- Salim Ahmad A. Rawas	Sahwan	Owner	Fawaz	53
3- Majid Fadil Marash	Samhan	Owner		53
4- Abdullah A. El Raheem	Adham	Owner	A. Jabr	53
5- Farhan Falihi Oudh	Maha	Owner	Salamh	51.5
6- Abid Sulman Khawatrih	Saad Abid	Owner	Ahmad	50
7- Soud Mohammed Soud	M. Faisal	Owner	Yousef	50
8- Abdulah Dawoud	Ghobar	Owner	Najib	50
9- Faris Khashman Hawatmin	M. Khashman	Owner		50
10- Bashnar Miehri Baraish	Israa	Owner	Ibrahim	48.5
11- A. El Satar Matar	J. Mshakar	Owner	Saad	48.5
12- Mamdouh Mohammad Khali	W. Hazim	Owner		48.5
13- Sulman Moawad Sulman	Z. El Allah	Owner	George	48.5

### THIRD RACE 5.00 FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES DISTANCE 1000 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- H.H. Late Sherif Nasir Stable	Azzih	Abbas	Ibrahim	58.5
2- Ahmed Sharkawi	Shallal	Owner	Rashed	58
3- Sultan Faisal Awwad Faleh	M. El Notoos	Owner		56.5
4- Samy Haddadin	Waheed	Owner	Salamh	56
5- Ghalib Haddadin	Makbool	Owner	Saad	56
6- Nimir El Hmoud	Aghadir	Owner	Najib	53.5
7- Nimir El Hmoud	El Ghool	Owner	Hiary	53
8- Nimir El Hmoud	Barary	Owner		51.5
9- Najla Wasil Beharat	M. Dina	Khairidin	George	48.5
10- Saad Eldin Rida Saad	Ghassab	Owner		58

### SECOND RACE 4.30 FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES DISTANCE 1400 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Mashhour Faisal A. Jnaib	N. El Salt	Owner	Yousef	60
2- Sulman Salim Khawatrih	Tallah	Owner	Ahmad	58
3- Hamad Abdullah Jarnay	S. Daly	Owner	Ibrahim	58
4- Walid Assaf & Khalid Iraky	Sanaies	Owner	Sulman	56
5- Mohammad Sulman Kalfan	Shamookh	Owner		53
6- Hany El Hadeed	Mashhour	Owner	Salamh	53
7- Talib El Naher	Badr	Owner	Kasim	53
8- Dr. A. El Naem A. Wandy	D. Maen	Owner	Saad	53
9- Samy El Ashran	Siray	Owner	A. Jabr	53
10- Mohammad A. El Jalil	Miad	Owner	George	51.5
11- Abdulhali Faez Aly Faez	W. Faez	Owner	Hiary	48.5

### FOURTH RACE 5.30 FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES DISTANCE 1000 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Ghalib Haddadin	Tamoun	Owner	Salamh	57
2- Khalil Haddadin	H. Maen	Owner	Saad	56
3- Aly Fared El Saad	Saad Aly	Khairidin	A. Jabr	53
4- Aly Fared El Saad	Sary	Khairidin	Mostafa	53
5- Sherif Mahdy El Saly	Arkan	Khairidin	Rashed	53
6- Kamel Wasil Beharat	Naaman	Khairidin	George	53
7- Nimir El Hmoud	Ibn Rabadan	Owner	Najib	53
8- Nimir El Hmoud	Sahary	Owner	Hiary	51.5

### FIFTH RACE 6.00 FOR THIRD & SECOND CLASS HORSES DISTANCE 1000 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Ghalib Haddadin	Tarik	Owner	Salamh	55
2- Kamel Wasil Beharat	Elsebaly	Khairidin	Rashed	55
3- Kamel Wasil Beharat	H. El Roman	Khairidin		53
4- Nimir El Hmoud	Sahr	Owner	Najib	55
5- Nimir El Hmoud	Rum	Owner	Hiary	53.5
6- Aly Fared El Saad	J. El Saad	Khairidin	George	55
7- Sultan Faisal Awwad Faleh	Nasmin	Owner	Ibrahim	53.5
8- Samy Yacoub Madros	Min Karaem	Adnan		55



